

Teachers for Tigers in Bhutan: Applied Environmental Education Program Evaluation (Pre-evaluation Report and Questionnaire Results)

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Program Prof	ile
Program Description:	<i>Teachers for Tigers</i> is a conservation education curriculum developed by the Wildlife Conservation Society. The program is designed to train teachers in tiger biology, conservation, cultural perspectives and scientific methodology to study tigers. In addition, the program introduces teaching techniques and strategies for using a variety of different subjects to teach about tigers and tiger conservation.
Program Goals:	 The goal of the <i>Teachers for Tigers</i> program is to train educators using the <i>Teachers for Tigers</i> curriculum. Teachers are expected to implement the program in their community to increase understanding, appreciation, and positive action to protect tigers. <i>The objectives are that by the end of the workshop, teachers will:</i> describe tiger biology, ranges, role in culture, threats and ways to help tiger conservation by listing at least three facts about each Practice at least five active teaching techniques such as drama, role-play, drawing, games, observation, and co-operative learning. Integrate different subjects (math, language, history, art) with science to teach about tigers. Within three months, teachers will: Use at least four of the lessons covered in the workshop with their students Share positive values about tiger conservation with at least two groups, including their families, students, and communities Organize at least one professional development session with their colleagues to share their workshop experiences Contribute to tiger conservation by engaging students, communities, and colleagues in actions which help tigers
Program Funding:	Private foundations
Program Links:	See <u>http://www.wcs.org/sw-education</u> for general information about WCS's educational activities. See http://www.zooreach.org/ for more information about <i>Teachers for Tigers</i> and our partner organization the Zoo Outreach Organization in India.
Evaluation Pr	ofile
Evaluation Goals &	The goal of the evaluation is to determine if the program goals and objectives are being met.
Questions:	The evaluation questions focus on workshop logistics and teacher's satisfaction, knowledge,

	attitudes, and use of the curriculum.
Evaluation Methods:	The evaluators used pretest and posttest questionnaires to evaluate changes in teacher's knowledge and attitudes. Participants also created concept maps as a part of the pre/ post tests, which will be used to measure changes in their knowledge and attitudes. Participants completed an additional questionnaire about the workshop at the end of the workshop. The evaluators sent follow-up surveys to participants 3-6 months after the workshop. Interviews and observations of participants conducting <i>Teachers for Tigers</i> activities are also planned.
Evaluation Instruments:	A complete set of evaluation instruments is available in the report.
How were results used?	Results were used to improve a similar workshop held in February, 2006 (and future workshops). Results also provided feedback to the evaluators for supporting individual participants in their teaching of this curriculum.
Evaluation	What worked well?
Insights:	 <i>Teachers for Tigers</i> materials adapted for a Bhutanese context Workshop organization, friendly and knowledgeable workshop facilitators Drama as an educational technique which participants would like to use with their groups Using and teaching a variety of evaluation techniques Participants became more confident, comfortable and committed to tiger conservation What were important evaluation "lessons learned"? Participants suggested extending the reach of these workshops. Although we invited school teachers, most of the participants were informal educators or foresters with education responsibilities.
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